

*The Vlaams Blok/Vlaams Belang and the
Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands
(NPD) on crime and crime control
– a comparative analysis*

Promoter: Prof. dr. Patrick Hebberecht
Commissioner 1: Prof. dr. Marc Cools
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Noël J. Klima 3. September 2007

Methodology

Core features extreme right party family (*Mudde 2000*)

- nationalism
- welfare chauvinism
- xenophobia
- law and order

Material examined: current party programs & dossiers

- No internal documents, published books, political actions

Context

- cultural, political, social, historical, economical
- micro, meso, macro level (members, party, party within pol landscape)
- regional specialties

Hypothesis: more differences on crime and crime control caused by contextual differences despite being part of extreme right party family

Table of comparison – results –

	VB	NPD
Reason for crime	Non-functioning Community (internal) + Aliens	Non-functioning Community (external) + Aliens
Street crime & violence	Zero tolerance policy	Street crime (-) violence (harsh)
Drug crime	'War on drugs' (symptoms), repression + deterrence, supplier side, not legal drugs P	Hard line (symptoms), repression, supplier side, not legal drugs
Juvenile crime	Hard line, Repression, individual responsibility, retribution, selective incapacitation P	No concern
Alien crime	Hard line, expulsion, no terror	Hard line, expulsion, terror!?
Traffic deviancy	Decriminalization	Decriminalization
Sexual offences	No concern (Dutroux), no inner family	Concern (repression + prevention, Dutroux), inner family
Amnesty	Decriminalization	Decriminalization
Abortion & euthanasia	Ultima ratio & criminalized	Ultima ratio & no concern
Other offences (white collar, OC, ecol)	No concern	WC: criminalization ecol: criminalization
Prevention	Strong community (family), 'repression best prevention' (symptoms)	Strong community, social, economical policy (root causes)
Police	Strong + visible	Strong + visible (but anti-GDR!)
Custody & sentencing	Quick incarceration, high sentences, no offender rights	Partly high sentences
Imprisonment	More + long incarceration, less prisoner rights, no death penalty	Long incarceration, less prisoner rights, death penalty
Victims	Victim protection (middle class)	Victim protection (lower classes)

Table of comparison – differences –

	VB	NPD
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Table of comparison – crucial differences –

	VB	NPD
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Conclusion

- VB stays in the line of late modern criminal policy
Reason: electoral success, establishment, no need for transition, more adaptation to main stream, but utopian!
- Ideological transition of the NPD towards a anti-liberal protest party reached criminal policy program
Reason: new management (globalization, new voter groups, 'conservative revolution', regional adaptation) but contradictory!
- Similar law and order lines (aliens, drugs, police, imprisonment) strong state + repression

Thus: not more different approaches but contextual differences show crucial impact on crime and crime control policy!

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